

Miscellany Page.

THE BALLAD OF PIETRO MASCAU.

Pietro Mascag was an artis' gran'.
The patron saint of the hand-organ
man.

Mascag he did write the Inter-mez-zo,
It may be that signor has heard it!
So!

An' Pietro, he get him so very well
known,
He stan' by himself, in a class all
alone.

One day a vera reech man from here,
He wrote him a letter: "Pietro, dear,
"If you'll come to this cowntree good
and queeck,
I give you say twenty-fi' dollar a
week."

An Pietro write back: "Make it twenty-
seex,
An' maybe I come for a couple of
weeks."

An it was arrange'. He come to this
land,
They meet him with flowers and shaka
his hand.

But up comes a cop. He arrests Pietro
They all, say "Why, why?" The cop
he don't know.

They let him go then, but take him
again,
An' throw him in jail. Ah! the stone-
hearted men.

But soon he gets loose, but, eh, what's
the use?
They arrest him again. Carramb.
What excuse?

You ask me for why? Yes, sir, an' I
know

It all on account of that Inter-mez-zo.
An' the hand-organ men who have
play him all day,
So they say to Pietro: "In jail you
mus' stay."

Or maybe you start up some other
blame tune.
An' make us all nuts in our head
pretty soon."

—New York Sun.

A BEAR STORY.

An extraordinary but well authenticated story of a bear's freak comes from the village of Saretshy, in the district of Gdoff, Russia. The village lies on the fringe of a forest, whence it is of frequent occurrence for bears to make prowling excursions both by day and night into the adjacent settlements. Some ten days ago two young girls, aged respectively 5 and 12, were surprised by a huge bear at a short distance from the village. The animal seized and carried off the younger child, while the elder, terror-stricken, fled home and gave the not unusual alarm. Towards sundown, three days later, the bear and her booty were discovered in a dense thicket. The child was perfectly unharmed and reclining in a deep mossy couch made for her by the bear. Although naturally delighted to be released from her strange guardianship, the little girl had subsisted fairly well on the nuts and other forest fruits brought to her laager by the bear.

WHEN ALLEN SAW THEM.

"Private" John Allen, of Mississippi, and Senator Mason, of Illinois, were discussing and experimenting with irrigation in the New Willard cafe the other day.

"Say, John," said Mason, "I understand you saw the G. A. R. parade here last fall."

"Yes," Allen replied.
"Fine body of men," continued Mason.

"Sure," replied Allen, who fought in the Confederate army from the beginning to the end of the war. "I recognized quite a lot of them."

"How in thunder did you recognize any of those men?" inquired Mason, wonderingly.

"By their backs," replied Allen. "Waiter, the Senator wants to speak to you."

CANNON'S GOOD SPEECH.

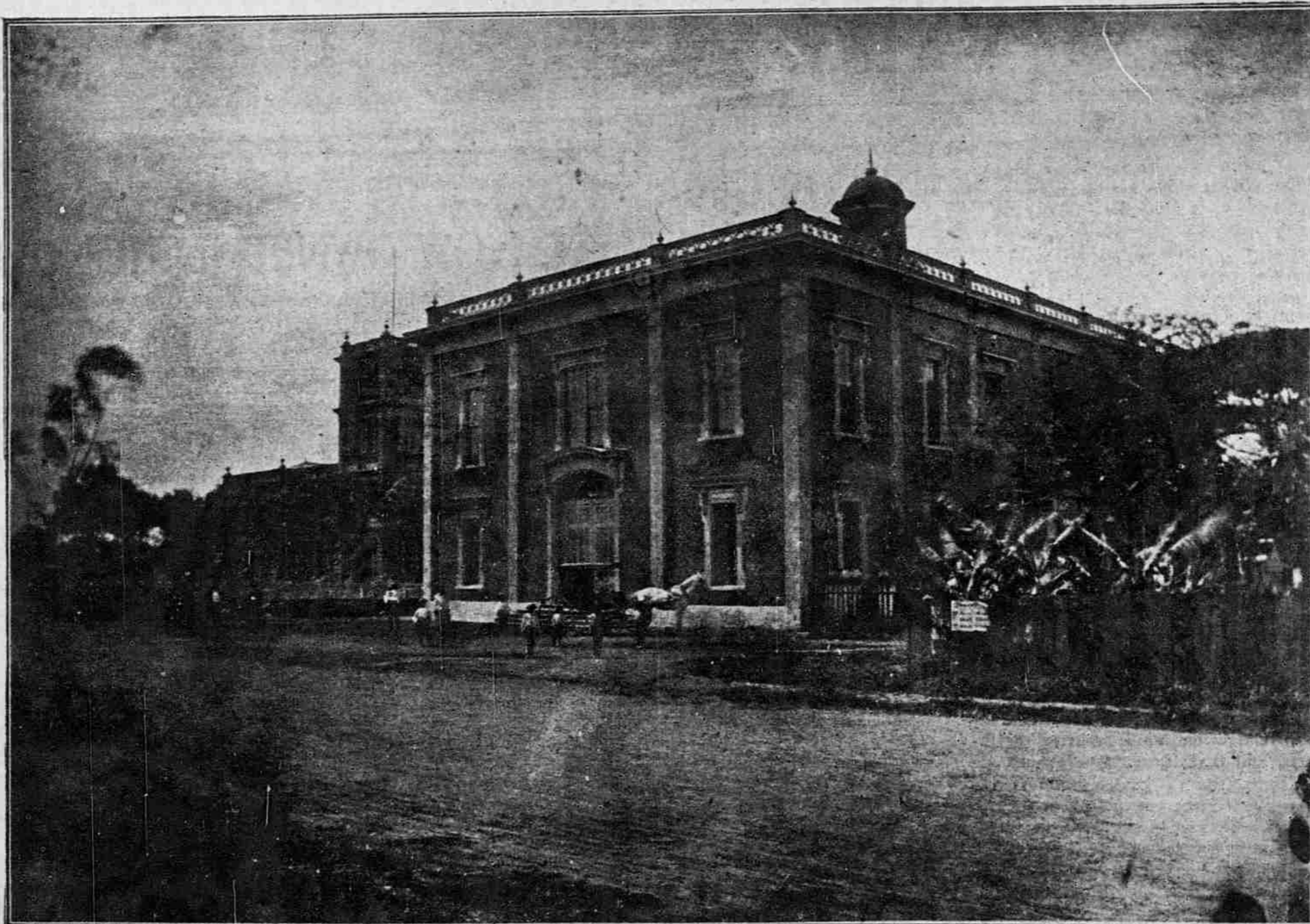
Said a Western friend to Congressman Cannon on Monday: "I haven't forgotten that speech you made on national finances last session, Jim. That was a fine effort." "Yes, Jim. Courts gets up a good speech," said the congressman easily. Courts was clerk of Cannon's committee on appropriations. "Did Courts write that speech?" was the obvious question. "Sure. Didn't you notice that all the sentences were completed? You might have known I didn't write it."

TWO-MINUTE BOUTS IN A CHURCH.

The boxing class which has been organized by the Rev. Dr. Scudder, of the First Congregational Church, of Jersey City, has begun its season work in the basement of the church. It contain 139 boys. Two-minute bouts are the order of the evenings, and any boy who loses his temper and "slugs" has to take off the gloves.

Scientific prophecy has never proven more visionary than in dealing with power from liquid air. The substance is still little more than a laboratory curiosity, and in a Cornell University test the other day a one-horse-power engine running one hour yielded only liquid air enough to run a one-horse-power engine one minute.

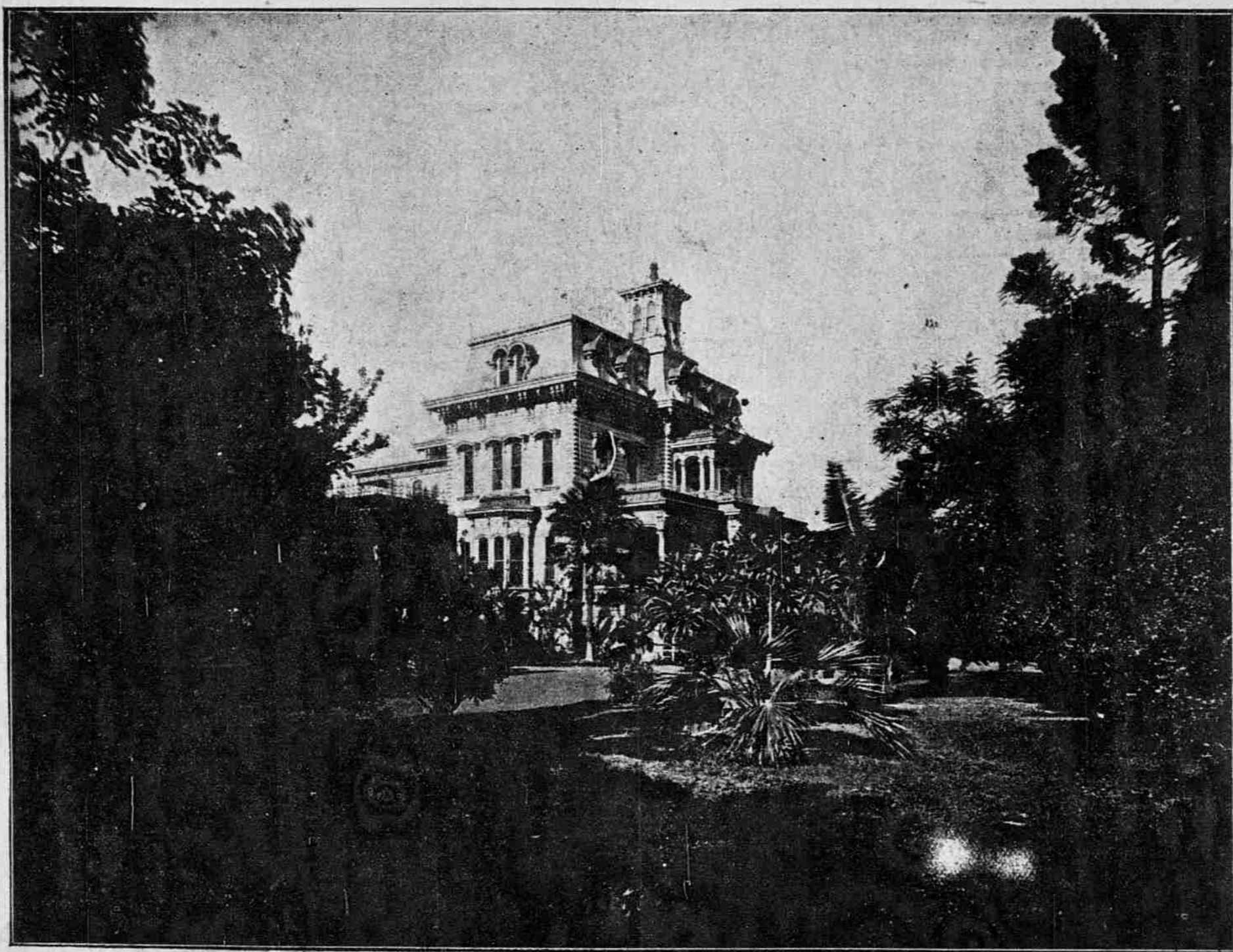
OLD HONOLULU DAYS



OPERA HOUSE WHICH WAS BURNED.

(Photo by Williams.)

From the roof of this the sharpshooters fired on Wilcox and his men in the revolution of 1889.



Honolulu High School, Formerly Residence of H. R. H. Princess Ruth.

FRUIT EATING AND TEMPER

At a meeting of horticultural enthusiasts in Minneapolis the other day one delegate declared that the eating of fruit was conducive to equanimity of temper and that children who were fed on fruit instead of meat could be easily distinguished by their agreeable dispositions. He accordingly urged that the consumption of fruit should be encouraged at home and in school and by all other means available.

The speaker may have thought that he had made a profound discovery. In fact, he was only restating an old truth. Good temper waits on good digestion and good digestion is largely the result of diet. And no kind of food so aids digestion as good ripe fruit in season. Henry Ward Beecher used to say that some day people would call things by their right names. They would not say that this man has a good temper and that man a bad temper, but they would say this man has a good digestion and that man a bad digestion. This would be more explicit and more in accord with the facts.

Fruit eating, by aiding digestion, undoubtedly does encourage good temper, and good temper is an important factor in national life. The good tempered man rarely commits crime and he works with more energy and produces more than the bad tempered man. A sunny-tempered wife is sure to have a beneficial effect upon a husband's usefulness. So it is worth while to create

a good temper and a pleasant disposition, even in a material sense, and as fruit eating leads to this result its consumption should be encouraged. A saturnine disposition in a public man has done more than one nation harm and should be avoided if possible.

Shakespeare was undoubtedly acquainted with the good effects of fruit on temper, for he says in "Macbeth": "Now good digestion waits on appetite, and health on both."

There can be no appetite without good digestion and no health without both, and there is rarely a good temper without all three. And as fruit eating contributes to this condition its consumption cannot be encouraged too much. —Philadelphia Press.

When Roscoe Conkling first began the practice of law in New York, he lost a most important murder case on which he had worked very hard, not only for the fee, which he needed badly but for a reputation which he had to make. Despite his efforts, his client was hanged. Later, when he presented his bill to the man's family, they refused to pay it, on the ground that it was excessive. He took the bill to Charles O'Connor, the great criminal lawyer, asking him to pass judgment as to the equity of his charges. O'Connor scanned the account very closely, and then, turning to Conkling, very gravely remarked: "Well, Conkling, taking into consideration the enormous amount of energy and time you have devoted to this case, the charges are reasonable; but see here, Conkling, don't you think the man could have been hanged for less money than that?"

POOR PLACE FOR BACHELORS

The Argentine Republic, or, rather, one of the small states that compose it, has no use for bachelors. The law holds that a man is marriageable in Argentina when he is 20. The exchequer gives point to the opinion by taxing all bachelors of between 20 and 30 \$5 a month. After 30, and up to 35, the tax increases 100 per cent. Between 35 and 50 single blessedness costs \$20 a month. From his fiftieth to his seventy-fifth year a bachelor may follow his own wild road by paying in \$30 a month. After that comes relief. The vicious example of an unmarried man of between 75 and 80 is considered to be neutralized by a payment of only \$20 a year, and when the eightieth birthday is passed the treasury finally ceases from worrying. A widower is given three years in which to mourn and choose a successor, but a man who can prove that he has proposed and been refused three times in one year is considered to have earned immunity.

Asiatic volcanoes are gaining a reputation for spuriousness. A lately reported eruption in a mountain near Irkutsk, in Siberia, has been investigated, and has proven to be nothing more serious than a fire—probably due to spontaneous combustion—in some bed of carbonaceous shale. Like cases are not uncommon. Lists of volcanoes in the Thian Shan chain have been

compiled by some authorities, but recent Russian travellers have shown that none of the volcanoes exist.

A St. Louis humorist declares that a young lady applicant for a school was asked the question: "What is your position upon whipping children?" and her reply was: "My usual position is on a chair, with the child held firmly across my knees, face downward." Needless to say, she got the school.

General "Phil" Sheridan was once riding down the line, when he saw an Irishman mounted on a mule which was kicking its legs rather freely. The mule finally got its hoof caught in the stirrup, when, in the excitement, the Irishman remarked: "Well, begorra, if you're goin' to get on, I'll get off!"

WHAT IS A COUGH?

A spasmodic effort to expel the mucus from the bronchial tubes. A cold causes a more abundant secretion of mucus, and when the lungs and bronchial tubes are inflamed, they are extremely sensitive to the irritation. Unless care is taken, the cold may result in pneumonia, which is swift and deadly. If the cold is a lingering one, the more leisurely but equally fatal consumption may set in. Do not neglect a cold or cough. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It always cures and cures quickly. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., wholesale agents, sell it.

Begin the new year right by using properly fitted glasses—Sanford the optician, Boston Building.

SCIENTIFIC

A new map shows that the peat-bogs of Ireland cover 1861 square miles, mostly in counties Donegal, Mayo and Galway. Their average depth is twenty-five feet.

The mass of Saturn's ring, as compared with that of the planet, is found by Prof. Hall to be as 1 to 7,032, or only about two-thirds the mass of Titan, the largest of Saturn's satellites.

Kissene pepper, a new species described as quite unlike any other, grows abundantly in a wild state in Guinea. Rich in piperine and volatile oil, it is claimed to be valuable, both as a spice and a condiment. Its small grains, characterized by a pedicle at their base, give a reddish brown powder, highly perfumed, and of a peculiar aromatic savor.

The Sylphs—called also the electric battledore and shuttlecock—is a novel Parisian game. The sylphs, or shuttlecocks, are butterflies or feathers made of colloid; and when one of these is thrown into the air it floats, and is driven back and forth between the two players. Instead of striking it, however, the players repel it from some distance by wands previously electrified by friction.

For a number of years tetanus has been treated—especially in Italy—with hypodermic injections of dilute phenol solution. The disease is usually arrested, and at the end of several days the symptoms begin to diminish. From the eighty cases thus far recorded, Dr. Croffi finds the mortality to be about thirteen per cent, while with treatment with anti-tetanic serum the deaths have reached thirty per cent.

Balloon photography as a means of military map-making is being developed by Rev. J. M. Baker, the English aeronaut. He uses a small balloon, and, to avoid the trouble and expense of hydrogen, this is quickly inflated by hot air from a petroleum heater. A small automatic camera is carried. In a recent trial the ascent was made in two minutes after beginning to inflate the balloon, and as everything is so simple and easily portable it is predicted that the system will revolutionize army observations.

Flowering plants have been shown by Dr. H. T. Brown and Mr. F. Escombe to be very nicely adjusted to an atmosphere containing 3 parts of carbon dioxide in 10,000. A slight increase of the carbon dioxide proved surprisingly unfavorable to growth and reproduction, and the experiments made it evident that an increase to two or three times the present amount would result in the speedy destruction of all flowering plants. If the air's composition has greatly varied since the advent of the plants, the change must have been slow.

The balloon constructed by the French War Department for crossing the Sahara is to carry no passengers except six pigeons, whose safe passage will show the feasibility of travel by this means in the desert. As the trip may require four or five days, the recording barometer, thermometer and barometer have clockwork to operate five days; and a camera, carrying a long strip of film, is so arranged that exposures will be made by clockwork at intervals of fifteen minutes during the time. Leakage is to be balanced by water ballast, released by a valve when the ground is touched by a ball hanging from the car.

The birth and death rates of Italy for forty years have been reviewed by Prof. Giuseppe Sorman. The births reached their highest point of 39.34 per 1000 in 1876 and their minimum was 33.49 in 1898, while the corresponding limits of the death rate were 34.39 in 1867 and 21.87 in 1899. Both birth and death rates have been diminishing, although there has been a constant excess of births over deaths varying from 2.40 in 1867 to 12.80 in 1897. Assuming the lessened death rate to be a result of better control of infectious diseases, it is estimated that 200,000 persons have been saved from death and at least twenty times as many have been saved from illness.

The tuatara, the curious lizard of New Zealand islands, is supposed to represent the oldest living type of animals in the world, and is of further interest as being the first vertebrate in which was discovered a survival of an eye of invertebrate kind in addition to the ordinary seeing organs. The third eye has more recently been found by its original discoverer, Dr. Dendy, in another New Zealand creature. This is the New Zealand lamprey, a favorite food of the Maoris, and the third eye, covered with thin skin and probably of no present use for seeing, is exactly on top of the head. Dr. Dendy believes that far back in the earth's history this eye was one of a pair of useful ones, both the lamprey and the tuatara having then two eyes on the back of the head. In the tuatara it is the left eye that still remains, but in the lamprey it is the right one.

The rapid changes that are taking place in the production of motive power were made evident in two striking papers of the late British Association meeting Mr. H. A. Humphrey pointed out that a 600 horse-power gas engine shown at Paris in 1900 was of great interest on account of its size, but the same makers now build engines of 2,500 horse-power and are ready to begin upon motors of twice that capacity. Of gas engines larger than 200 horse-power, British makers last August had delivered or had under contract not less than 51, while the total on the Continent and in America was 327 engines, aggregating 181,605 horse-power. Gas engines of 1,500 horse-power have been made in Pittsburgh, and two gas engine gas compressors of 4,000 horse-power each are under contract in Buffalo. In the second paper, by the Hon. C. A. Parsons, it was stated that compound steam turbines were furnishing a total of 5,000 horse-power in 1880, the largest unit not exceeding 120 horse-power. Rising to 40,000 horse-power in 1896, now the aggregate of these motors for driving dynamos has reached about 300,000, the largest size having increased to 3,000 horse-power; and besides this, about 33,000 horse-power is being applied to the driving of boats.